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coasting trade of the United States, its entire coasting trade—whether Inland, Atlantic or Pacific,—with rapidly decreasing supplies of ship timber, and rapidly increasing rates of wages, then our flag would gradually fade away and disappear from the great waterways of the world; we should lose national prestige; we should incur material loss and damage; and our energies would be ingloriously and unprofitably expended in merely adding to the volume and the prestige of the mercantile marine of another nation, enabling it the better to compete with us in the carrying trade of the world. (Cheers.) Under these circumstances, I would suggest to the distinguished delegates from the United States, that their Government should admit us to their entire coasting trade in return for the great privileges, coasting and otherwise, which we are prepared to grant; and if this is done, despite the burdens to be assumed by our Government, I for one will contend that Canada, when she builds the Baie Verte Canal, shall make it as free to the vessels of the United States as to our own—(hear, hear)—and thus their craft on the Lakes and the St. Lawrence will have a short and easy access to the Atlantic coast,—and “reciprocally,” as the Treaty has it, their vessels on the Atlantic shall have easy access to the St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes. (Applause.) And if there should then be a little advantage in our favor, would it not be well for the people of the United States to show, for once in their lives, that they can afford to make a liberal treaty with the people of this young Dominion? (Cheers and laughter.) I now come to the second part of the Treaty, at which I can only glance, namely, the exchange of natural productions. I think it may be held, having respect to the value to the United States of such raw material as we can supply on the one hand or require on the other, that these exchanges pretty nearly balance each other, and that at present, as my friend Mr. Trout could readily show, judging from what he has already said, the advantages are chiefly enjoyed by the United States. But let it be granted that the advantages in this matter are on the side of Canada, how does the account stand when our fisheries are thrown in? Does not this magnificent addition from our little four millions to the forty millions of the United States turn the scale? and if it does, how is it that our natural productions are to pay any duty at all? How is it that they are not to go freely into the markets of the United States, as we have paid in advance for the privilege by surrendering a participation in the fisheries to the people of the United States? (Cheers.) Now, a word on the third part of the treaty. Need I say that any sudden change fitted to injure the manufacturing industries of this country must tell prejudicially upon all other interests—upon agriculture, upon shipping, upon population, upon revenue, and upon national prestige. So far as we can learn, the manufacturers of Canada, for reasons which my time will not permit me to state, are afraid of this Treaty, and perhaps still more afraid of the nature of the sliding-scale, so unfair to Canada, under which it is proposed that the Treaty should take effect. If this be so, it is fair to ask—in whose interests are these manufacturing clauses introduced? Did the manufacturers of Canada ask for them? Did the people of this country, in any way, declare that they